Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 EUR-12 /061 W

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R 150920Z JUL 75 FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9950 INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR. BM

SUBJECT: NYT CORRESPONDENT'S INTEREST IN NARCOTICS PROGRAM

1.HENRY KAMM,PARIS BASED ROVING CORRESPONDENT FOR NEW YORK TIMES, CALLED AT EMBASSY JULY 15 DURING FIRST VISIT TO RANGOON IN FIVE YEARS. KAMM SPOKE WITH CHARGE', POL/ECON COUNSELOR ABOUT AND NARCOTICS OFFICER MCGIVERN. KAMM CLEARLY INFORMED THAT NEITHER INDIVIDUALS HERE NOR MISSION ITSELF COULD BE CITED AS SOURCES TO WHICH HE AGREED.

2. WHILE CONCERNED WITH THE WHOLE RANGE OF POLITICOE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN BURMA, KAMM EVIDENCED SPECIAL INTEREST IN NARCOTICS QUESTION AND US PROGRAMS. HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF DDSI CHIEF AUNG HTAY'S VISIT TO US AND REPEATEDLY ASKED WHAT "BURMA'S HEAD OF INTELLIGENCE" WAS DOING THERE. WE EXPLAINED GUB'S INCREASED INTEREST IN THE NARCOTICS QUESTION, AUNG HTAY'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS FIELD, AND RELATED VISIT TO HELICOPTER DELIVERIES. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE US (RATHER THAN PRC OR USSR) WOULD BE THE LOGICAL PLACE TO SEE A MAJOR ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN ACTION. KAMM SEEMED GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH EXPLANATION ALTHOUGH A LINGERING SUSPICION MAY REMAIN THAT THERE WAS MORE TO THE TRIP THAN MEETS THE EYE. WHEN WE NOTED THAT GUB (RATHER THAN USG) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS SENSITIVE TO PUBLICITY ABOUT THE AUNG HTAY TRIP, KAMM IN-

| DICATED HE FELT UNDER NO RPT NO CONSTRAINT TO WITHOLD THIS INFORM- |
|--|
| ATION WHICH HE HAD DEVELOPED FROM OTHER SOURCES, PRESUMABLY |
| BURMESE. |
| HOWARTH |

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: SNAR, BM, NEW YORK TIMES, (KAMM, HENRY)
To: STATE

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